Amendments to the Specification

Please replace the paragraph at page 12, lines 6-19 of the specification with the following amended paragraph:

Other suitable protease inhibitors that can be added to the penetration composition are described in Bernkop-Schnurch *et al.*, *J. Control. Release*, 52:1-16 (1998). These include, *e.g.*, inhibitors of luminally secreted proteases, examples of which are aprotinin, Bowman-Birk inhibitor, soybean trypsin inhibitor, chicken ovomucoid, chicken ovoinhibitor, human pancreatic trypsin inhibitor, camostate mesilate, flavonoid inhibitors, antipain, leupeptin, *p*-aminobenzamidine, AEBSF, TLCK, APMSF, DFP, PMSF, poly(acrylate) derivatives, chymostatin, benzyloxycarbonyl-Pro-Phe-CHO, FK-448, sugar biphenylboronic acids complexes, β-phenylpropionate, elastatinal, methoxysuccinyl-Ala-Ala-Pro-Val-chloromethylketone (MPCMK) (SEQ ID NO:66), EDTA, and chitosan-EDTA conjugates. These also include inhibitors of membrane bound proteases, such as amino acids, di- and tripeptides, amastatin, bestatin, puromycin, bacitracin, phosphinic acid dipeptide analogues, α-aminoboronic acid derivatives, Na-glycocholate, 1,10-phenantroline, acivicin, L-serine-borate, thiorphan, and phosphoramidon.

Please replace the paragraph at page 32, line 16 through page 33, line 7 of the specification with the following amended paragraph:

Preferred pharmaceutical compositions are tablets and gelatin capsules, enteric-coated, comprising the active ingredient together with a) diluents, *e.g.*, lactose, dextrose, sucrose, mannitol, sorbitol, cellulose and/or glycine; b) protease inhibitors including, but not limited to, aprotinin, Bowman-Birk inhibitor, soybean trypsin inhibitor, chicken ovomucoid, chicken ovoinhibitor, human pancreatic trypsin inhibitor, camostate mesilate, flavonoid inhibitors, antipain, leupeptin, *p*-aminobenzamidine, AEBSF, TLCK, APMSF, DFP, PMSF, poly(acrylate) derivatives, chymostatin, benzyloxycarbonyl-Pro-Phe-CHO; FK-448, sugar biphenylboronic acids complexes, β-phenylpropionate, elastatinal, methoxysuccinyl-Ala-Ala-Pro-Val-chloromethylketone (MPCMK) (SEQ ID NO:66), EDTA, chitosan-EDTA conjugates,

amino acids, di-peptides, tripeptides, amastatin, bestatin, puromycin, bacitracin, phosphinic acid dipeptide analogues, α-aminoboronic acid derivatives, Na-glycocholate, 1,10-phenantroline, acivicin, L-serine-borate, thiorphan, and phosphoramidon ; c) lubricants, *e.g.*, silica, talcum, stearic acid, its magnesium or calcium salt, poloxamer and/or polyethyleneglycol; for tablets also d) binders, *e.g.*, magnesium aluminum silicate, starch paste, gelatin, tragacanth, methylcellulose, sodium carboxymethylcellulose and/or polyvinylpyrrolidone; if desired e) disintegrants, *e.g.*, starches, agar, alginic acid or its sodium salt, or effervescent mixtures; and/or f) absorbents, colorants, flavors and sweeteners. The compositions may be sterilized and/or contain adjuvants, such as preserving, stabilizing, wetting or emulsifying agents, solution promoters, salts for regulating the osmotic pressure and/or buffers. In addition, they may also contain other therapeutically valuable substances. The compositions are prepared according to conventional mixing, granulating or coating methods, respectively, and contain about 0.01 to 75%, preferably about 0.1 to 10%, of the active ingredient.

Please insert the Substitute Sequence Listing, pages 1-43, at the end of the specification.